

1 1. A method comprising:
2 wirelessly linking a plurality of shopping carts
3 within a retail facility through a local area network based
4 in the retail facility; and
5 enabling the carts to exchange information
6 through said network.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein wirelessly linking
2 includes providing wireless access to a server by a
3 plurality of carts within a retail facility.

1 3. The method of claim 1 including providing a
2 processor-based device on a shopping cart to retail
3 customers that wirelessly communicates with said server.

1 4. The method of claim 3 including enabling
2 customers to activate said device by swiping a credit card
3 through a slot in said device.

1 5. The method of claim 1 including receiving audible
2 communications from said carts.

1 6. The method of claim 1 including enabling carts to
2 communicate via text messages with one another over said
3 network.

1 7. The method of claim 1 including pushing
2 electronic files to the carts.

1 8. The method of claim 1 including providing
2 information about the current location of a processor-based
3 device associated with a cart.

1 9. The method of claim 8 including providing
2 information about the cart's location to the server.

1 10. The method of claim 9 including pushing
2 information to the cart depending on the cart's current
3 location.

1 11. An article comprising a medium storing
2 instructions that enable a processor-based system to:
3 wirelessly link a plurality of shopping carts
4 within a retail facility through a local area network based
5 in the retail facility; and
6 enable the carts to exchange information through
7 said network.

1 12. An article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to be
3 accessed wirelessly by a plurality of carts within a retail
4 facility.

1 13. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to
3 recognize a processor-based device on a shopping cart used
4 by a customer in response to a credit card swipe through a
5 slot in said device.

1 14. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to
3 receive audible communications from said carts.

1 15. The article of claim 14 further storing
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to
3 broadcast audio files to said carts.

1 16. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to
3 enable the carts to communicate via text messages with one
4 another over said network.

1 17. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to push
3 electronic files to the carts.

1 18. The article of claim 11 further storing
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to

3 provide information about the current location of a
4 processor-based device associated with a cart.

1 19. The article of 18 further storing instructions
2 that enable the processor-based system to determine the
3 cart's location.

1 20. The article of claim 19 further storing
2 instructions that enable the processor-based system to push
3 information to a cart depending on the cart's current
4 location.

1 21. A system comprising:
2 a shopping cart;
3 a processor mounted on said cart; and
4 a storage coupled to said processor to wirelessly
5 link a plurality of carts within a retail facility through
6 a local area network based in the retail facility and
7 enable carts to exchange information through said network.

1 22. The system of claim 21 including a housing, said
2 processor mounted in said housing.

1 23. The system of claim 22 wherein said housing is
2 adjustably mountable on said cart.

1 24. The system of claim 22 wherein said cart includes
2 a handle and said housing is mounted on said handle.

1 25. The system of claim 21 further including a
2 wireless transceiver.

1 26. The system of claim 21 further including an
2 interface to enable network communications.

1 27. The system of claim 21 including a position
2 locating device coupled to said processor.

1 28. The system of claim 21 including an audio
2 transducer coupled to said processor.

1 29. The system of claim 21 including a card reader
2 coupled to said processor.

1 30. The system of claim 21 including a bar code ,
2 scanner coupled to said processor.